

THE OBSERVER



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SJC gratefully accepts million dollar donation

by Don Shanahan

Before the winter break, while students were still busy taking finals, Saint Joseph's College was the gracious recipient of its largest single donation.

The check came from John Boler, founder and chairman of The Boler Company. Students, community members, and college representatives attending a celebration hosted by President Skip Shannon greeted John Boler on December 13. Mr. Boler was scheduled to pledge his \$1 million donation over a period of four years. Much to the community's surprise, Mr. Boler brought the entire donation that day.

This astounding donation is part of the Boler Challenge for Academic Excellence. The objective of the program is to match, dollar for dollar, new and increased gifts to Saint Joseph's College that support high priority academic programs and projects. This plan becomes a challenge to alumni, trustees, parents, staff, and friends of Saint Joseph's College to direct similar gifts to renovation projects, new course development, international programs, faculty development,

and service projects. One of the specific areas that this donation will improve is the Math and Science building, its labs, classrooms, and theater.

"This a challenge to give back to Catholic education help to those who need it," stated Boler. "I have never forgotten where I came from. This is a small way to help the institution who helped my son."

The Boler Company is the holding company of Hendrickson International, one of the world's leading manufacturers of heavy-duty truck suspension and component systems and one of eight companies acquired by Boler since 1977. The company's income has grown over five-times since Boler acquired it.

Born in the small town of Marion, Ohio in 1934, John Boler has always kept his blue-collar roots. His son, James, is a 1985 graduate of Saint Joseph's College. Mr. Boler, a graduate of John Carroll University, is himself the product of a small school. He strongly believes in the positive qualities of such small schools.

"When you see that someone is a



JOHN BOLER PRESENTS his million dollar donation to President Skip Shannon at a ceremony held in his honor. The College was surprised to receive the donation all at once rather than in gradual installments as had been expected. Photo by Don Shanahan

graduate of Saint Joseph's College, you know they are a proven and very fine product," stated Boler. He added that, "Students leave an institution such as this one with the ability to think and express thought rationally and logically in written and verbal words, making them a well-rounded social individual."

When asked how this donation will affect Saint Joseph's College and the future, President Shannon was excited and gracious. "This is a life-changing gift from a man who sticks to his principles. We accept Mr. Boler's challenge and we guarantee to turn his challenge into a blessing."

Europe trip offers Core students passage abroad

by Katie Davet

From May 7th through the 18th, a group of at least fifteen students from the Saint Joseph's College community will be boarding up for a tour of Europe. The students will travel to Paris, Florence and Rome. This trip was suggested for those students who have completed Core 4 but it is open to all SJC students. Professor Michael Oakes, associate professor of Economics and Finance, is organizing the trip. The total cost is \$1,770, which will include the airfare, transfer between cities, all hotel taxes, breakfasts, and English speaking assistance for all transfers.

The group will be leaving the day after commencement, and will be head-

ing to O'Hare airport in Chicago for an overnight flight to Paris. Some of the highlighted spots the group will be visiting are the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre Museum, and the Notre Dame Cathedral. After four days spent in Paris, the group will take an overnight train to Florence, where they will spend one day exploring the city. The next morning, the students will be transferred by train to Rome. There, they will have another four days to explore the sites of Rome such as the Forum and the Colosseum.

With the exception of the brief sight-seeing tours that the students will be taken on upon arrival in each city, most of the trip will consist of free time for the students to explore each location in-

dependently. Professor Oakes stated that this was one of the appealing aspects of this particular travel package.

"One of the values of an overseas trip is getting to travel in a foreign land and explore on your own. You can't do that if someone is telling you what to do and where to go the whole time," Oakes stated.

This trip comes on the heels of another European excursion taken by Core 3 students last semester. To help enhance the Core 3 experience, Professor Susan Chattin offered students the opportunity to travel to Greece and see firsthand what they had read about throughout the semester.

Professor Oakes stated that it is his hope that these kinds of trips will become routine. He added that if they do become a regular occurrence, this will give students time to save their money throughout the year in order to attend.

If you would like more information about the trip or if you have some interest in going, please contact Professor Oakes as soon as possible either by phone at ext. 6353 or by e-mail at mjoakes@saintjoe.edu.



A POPULAR GREEK SITE, the Temple of Poseidon. Photo by Susan Chattin

CORE 3 STUDENTS

pose during their trip with a Greek shoemaker who has made sandals for The Beatles and Jackie Onassis.

Photo courtesy of Susan Chattin



In this Issue...

News..... 1&3

- CareerFest recap
- Mentalist Chris Carter visits SJC

Opinion..... 2

- The spin on "spin"
- Waging war on textbook fees

Features..... 4&5

- Puma Profile: Sister Catherine
- Columbian Players play preview

Sports..... 6&7

- Coach's Corner: Tom Riva
- Men's Basketball update

EtCetera..... 8

- Did you ever wonder...?
- Puma poetry

The No-Spin Zone

by Luke Hansen

Whoever thought election night was exsaperating and unpredictable must have been speechless during the five weeks that followed.

Most Americans flipped on their cable news channels and listened to patrons of both political parties screaming into the camera. We witnessed prolific rhetoric and unprecedented partisan division. The words spoken were often misleading and sometimes dishonest. Now it's my turn. Here's what really happened in the historic election contest of 2000.

The legal doctrine that has protected our nation for over 200 years faced its greatest examination ever. When our nation's most respected lawyers analyzed our laws, we found that our state statutes and national constitution are often conflicting and sometimes quite ambiguous.

We have always regarded our laws, for the most part, as clear and concise. This election, however, proved that any wording could be translated into two different meanings. Both democrats and republicans alike DID have solid legal grounds for their courtroom challenges. Both sides believed they were correct, but if the situation reversed itself, everyone's positions would change just as quickly. There isn't anyone in this nation that can argue with this fact.

This partisan behavior, unfortunately, leaked into our court system. The Florida Supreme Court, with six democrats and one independent justice, ruled for Al Gore in each case they were handed. Without surprise, the conservative U.S. Supreme Court found it necessary to stop the recount before even hearing arguments in *Bush v. Gore*.

The incredible shift towards bipartisanship and renewed hope began with the *Bush v. Gore* opinion. Contrary to public belief and left-wing rhetoric, the justices ruled 7-2 that there was a violation of Equal Protection (guaranteed by the 14th Amendment).

This meant that all recounts that had been conducted in Florida violated our constitution. It was obvious to any intelligent observer that there would be no time to correct the recounting error, which included creating new standards and starting entirely over again.

Al Gore conceded in the most gracious manner the following night, calling for all Americans to recognize the new President-elect as legitimate. George W. Bush followed with an acceptance speech that emphasized uniting our nation and ending partisan conflict.

Since that night on December 13, some leaders have lived up to these expectations while others have not. Senate party leaders Trent Lott (R-MS) and Tom Daschle (D-SD) compromised a very respectable power-sharing deal in the 50-50 Senate. In contrast, President Clinton recently announced on television that Al Gore was the actual victor in the election. Moments like this will only damage our hopes for a better future.

The unfortunate battle has ended, but there are important issues that remain before us. We have to pay attention to all voters who have been disenfranchised across our nation, especially our minorities. Our lawmakers need to reform our vague election laws, along with the system we use for conducting elections.

The dust is finally clearing, and I maintain a cautious optimism regarding the next four years.

Waging War on Textbook Fees

by Mandy Meyers

As a new semester begins, one thing stands out in my mind - the dread of buying more expensive textbooks.

As always I end up spending an arm and a leg for books that sometimes are never even opened. I buy them with the intention that I will use them at least once but I don't. I never even touched some of the books that I have bought in the past. This was not due to my lack of interest in the class, but rather to my professor who chose not to use the book. By that time, it's too late to return it and you've just thrown away your money. I just wish that I knew that ahead of time instead of wasting \$40-50 dollars on it.

Another personal favorite of mine is the part where you sell your books back. That's a joke. For instance, I spent approximately \$65-70 dollars on a particular used book, and I didn't receive anything for it because it was not on "the list." Who makes up this list? I certainly would like to see it and know why they will not buy my book back. Just because St. Joe cannot use it, I'm sure they can sell it back to another college. How exactly does that work?

I know I don't have much room to complain since I am an English Litera-

ture major (my books are not as expensive as some of the other majors), but it is still frustrating. For all the money we pay to go here you would think that books would be included, but I know that is a far-fetched dream.

So, instead of wasting more money at the bookstore, I have other solutions. First, I have found a web site that sells books at half the original price or lower called www.half.com. I have also gone to bookstores such as Barnes and Noble and Borders to buy books for classes. I've even asked my parent's friends if they have any books from when they were in college. I know this may not work for everyone, but it's worth a shot. My advice is to write down all the books you need for the semester and try to find them over break. If not, wait till the first week of classes and see if you are even going to be using the books on the syllabus. Also, another hidden secret is to go to the library and check them out. I know you can find some of your Core books there and also classic literature books. You may have to continually renew your book, but just realize that it's free reading. Something to think about.

Where's the Onion?

by Richard Rabensteine

Last Tuesday, SJC had its "Career Fest 2001" in the ballroom. Along with this job fair, there also seemed to be a large number of athletic recruits on campus. On this day, I noticed something that I had never given much attention to in the past.

On a normal day when the cafeteria has onion rings, they do not actually have onions in them. However, for some strange reason, last Tuesday they did. Instead of the same old "onion flavored ring of bread", one could actually see the

onion in the center and they were not all the same generic shape. They varied in size (as true onion rings should.) So I was just wondering what the reason is for this. Is it that the school is trying to lure recruits here under the false promise of real onion rings, only for them to find out what the truth of the food matter is later? If so, does this mean that the school is knowingly ashamed of the food? Moreover, if that is true, why don't they do anything about it?

Building Morale Starts at the Top

by Heather Hagan

While spending some time among the faculty offices in the Core Building a few weeks ago, I happened to hear a group of professors expressing their concerns regarding the quality of academic life here at SJC.

These professors are worried that students are not taking their studies seriously and are choosing to use their time in a less-than-productive manner (i.e. drinking). They had a number of concerns, but to sum up their complaints, they feel that St. Joe is light on learning and heavy on recreation.

I found this conversation to be very troubling and not at all accurate. While it is true that most students here know how to have a good time, it is incorrect to say that the academic environment of the school suffers because of this. In my four years at SJC, I have found the majority of students here to be quite adept at juggling their social lives with their academic lives.

This conversation was not an isolated occurrence. I have heard a number

of other faculty and staff members expressing these same concerns. While it is nice to know that the faculty cares about our well-being, I wish they would take the time to find out what really goes on in the dorms. If they would walk through one of the dorms on a random weeknight (as I know a few faculty members recently did), they would find an environment that is, for the most part, conducive to studying. It may not be as quiet as the library, but it is a dorm, after all.

What I found most troubling about this conversation, however, is the lack of morale it displayed. If our professors do not have confidence in the quality of academic life at this school, how are the students supposed to? As someone who takes her studies very seriously, I would like to think that I have chosen a college that is going to provide me with the best education possible. When I hear professors express such little confidence in academic life at SJC, I begin to wonder if I have chosen wisely.

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Candid play about women's lives to be performed at SJC

—by Maia Kingman—

The Columbian Players of Saint Joseph's College will present the comedy *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* by Alan Ball on February 2nd and 3rd at 8:00 P.M., and on February 4th at 2:00 P.M. in the College Theater. Admission is five dollars for adults and three dollars for non-SJC students.

The play concerns five reluctant, identically-clad bridesmaids who are hiding out from an ostentatious wedding reception in a Knoxville, Tennessee estate. Each bridesmaid has her own reason for avoiding the festivities going on out on the back lawn. The characters include Francis, a painfully sweet but shel-

tered fundamentalist; Mindy, the wise-cracking sister of the groom;

Georgianne, whose own failing marriage triggers outrageous behavior; Meredith, the bride's younger sister whose rebelliousness masks a dark secret; and Tricia, a jaded beauty whose die-hard cynicism about men is called into question when she meets Tripp, a charming usher to whom there is more than meets the eye.

According to Director John Rahe, Assistant Professor of Communication and Theater Arts, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* is a funny play about women who, although dressed identically, are each unique. In the play they discuss their

relationships with men and with each other, and they evaluate their expectations of their own lives. Rahe notes that this is a play for an adult audience, because its characters discuss their lives in a frank and open manner.

The Cast includes: Francis, Melissa Genova, Freshman from Dyer, IN; Meredith, Blaire Henley, Junior from Rossville, IN; Tricia, Courtney Coe, Junior from Watago, IL; Georgianne, Megan Bodnar, Senior from Hobart, IN; Mindy, Wendy Sidner, Sophomore from Plainfield, IN; and Tripp, Todd Huff, Sophomore from Bremen, IN. The Stage Manager is Joe Small from Wheatfield, IN.

CareerFest 2001 Presents Job and Internship Opportunities

—by Breain Ma'ayteh—

On Tuesday, January 23, 2001, SJC students were seen dressed in suits, armed with resumes and a smile with which to greet potential employers. It was CareerFest 2001, a fair designed for students looking for college internships or job positions that require a Bachelor's degree.

The goal of the fair was "to let students ask questions about companies, opportunities within those companies and to give them a chance to have access to some quality employers," Barb Robertson, Director of Career Services, explained prior to the fair. "It's a good way to find out what a company's all about, and to see if it's a place where you might enjoy working."

Over seventy-five percent of the companies invited to attend CareerFest were Indiana based, while the remaining twenty-four percent came from bordering states. These businesses were chosen based on their appeal to a variety of majors and educational backgrounds, ranging from Federal programs like the Army to the Donaldson Company, a local business. There were also representatives from a handful of universities to answer questions about graduate school options.

CareerFest has been going on at Saint Joe for several years, but there was a special twist to the way this year's was planned. "We tried to get students who represented various majors together, and then we brainstormed about companies they wanted to see at the Fair," Robertson said. "We really tried to get the students' input and ideas and work with that."

Prior to the event, Robertson advised all students attending CareerFest to come armed with multiple copies of their resume and to "dress to impress." "Don't forget to shine your shoes," she had warned. "[The company representatives] always check."

The students who attended had much to say about the opportunities that CareerFest provided them. Megan Bodnar, a senior completing a major in Biology and a minor in Psychology, said she was happy with CareerFest. "I thought [the fair] was really good," she said. "I made a lot of good contacts within my minor, and the companies were receptive to my questions."

The students weren't the only ones who had invested time in CareerFest 2001. Melita Moore, Personnel Recruiter for Edgewater Systems, a health care company located in Gary, said she was glad to come out. "[Edgewater Systems] hopes to be here every year. I was very impressed with all the students I've talked to," she said. "They represent a wide array of majors, and those educational backgrounds especially fit large companies." Jen Anderson, representative for Edgewater, actually graduated from Saint Joe with a degree in Psychology in 1994. "I was one of the first to receive an invitation, and I thought it would be a good thing to do," she explained.

The tentative date for the next CareerFest is November 14. All funds raised from the fair will be used to create more Career Center Programs.

Minutes from the Student Senate Meeting held January 22, 2001

Linda McFarland has been nominated to be the SA advisor. Student Life committee met with the Resident Assistants to discuss the quality of life. Major concerns were dorm fines, faculty involvement and the culture of SJC. The Board of Trustees want everyone to have a shared vision. The three main goals were more revenue, review of academic programs, and increase endowment of nearly \$9.5 million.

A motion was made for nominations for Senate President. The vote was taken and David Banks was elected Senate President for 2001.

Mentalist Christopher Carter Captures Students' Minds

—by Nichole Workman—

Saint Joseph's College was fortunate enough to have well-known mentalist Christopher Carter perform for students last Thursday, January 18th. Known as one of the world's most skilled "thought readers," Mr. Carter made his first appearance around the campus mingling with the students as they ate dinner. He used this time to enchant the students with his knowledge. It must have worked, because by the time his show began he had quite a large audience.

Carter astounded SJC students by telling personal facts about audience members that he could not possibly have learned, and telling members of the audience answers to questions about their future. "I get to make my living messing with other peoples' heads!" he exclaimed at the start of his show. Most people agree that he does his job quite well.

According to his website, www.mindcrap.com, Mr. Carter performs at over 150 college campuses per year including, DePaul University, University of Missouri, and Indiana University. On the road eight months out of the year, a typical week could involve entertaining a company in Nashville one night, and then catching an early morning flight to tour colleges in Alaska. The National Association of Campus Activities has nominated him for the performing arts "Entertainer of the Year" award.

Mr. Carter told the audience at Saint Joe that he does not consider himself a "psychic." "When I think of psychics, I think of a Latoya Jackson hotline. That is fake." He maintains that his talents include much more than simply reading the minds of others. "I make predictions which come true in detail; I influence peoples' thoughts; I cause objects to

move using the power of my mind, and even teach audience members how to read the thoughts of others."

When SJC students entered the ballroom to watch the mentalist, they were

it happen.

He later told everyone to take their note cards and pencil, write a few personal things about themselves, and asked a question to which they did not

know the answer. He proceeded to place coins over his eyes, duct tape them in place, and place a thick blindfold again over that. He then asked his assistant from the audience, junior Polly Rainey, to collect the note cards that the audience had filled out along with a few personal belongings from the crowd. After describing each of the personal objects without seeing or touching them, he moved on to the note cards. Picking them up one by one, he amazed every-

one by telling what their names were, when they were born, and the answers to their questions.

After the show, Brenton McDonald stood in the hall of Seifert, and told all of his friends about what the mentalist had said to him. "I was in total shock at what he knew about me. It was so freaky!" he told them.

Mentalist Chris Carter was only one of the fun and entertaining shows the Student Union Board (SUB) has sponsored this year. Other activities planned for the semester are the annual Suitcase Party, many coffeehouse performers, the game show Singled Out, and Mr. and Miss. Puma beauty contest.



MENTALIST CHRISTOPHER CARTER

handed a piece of string about five inches long, a standard sized note card and a small, yellow pencil. After introducing a few tricks, Mr. Carter told everyone to take the string and tie something to it. "A ring is ideal, tie a watch, anything that you can loop a string through," he told everyone. "Now, watch it as it begins to move back and forth." Everyone watched in awe as the object at the end of his or her string moved back and forth. "It will now begin to move in a small circle... now a larger circle..." The crowd began to talk to one another as they watched their object do exactly what he said it would do. "Now grab it and stop it," Mr. Carter went on to explain that because he was telling everyone what their object would do, they subconsciously made



Puma Profile: A Closer Look at Sister Catherine Faye

Mike Potts

It is often said that home is where the heart is. For Sr. Catherine Faye, home is not here at Saint Joseph's College, though she has been here for twenty-three years, nor is it in Rensselaer. Sr. Catherine's heart is in God and in teaching.

Born in Springfield, Massachusetts, Sr. Catherine was raised with the importance of religion instilled in her from youth. Both of her parents were not originally from the United States, but were born in Ireland. At three years of age, Sr. Catherine moved from her home in Massachusetts to the Northwest of Europe. Her father became quite ill and his doctor's advice was to return to his home land in hopes that this comfort would quell his illness. So Sr. Catherine packed up and went to Ireland.

Unfortunately, however, the doctor's prescription did not succeed and Sr. Catherine's father passed away. At the age of ten, she was back in the United States, studying to be a sister. Her father had died, but she was still strong in keeping her faith. She explained that she admired those who never get down and depressed.

There is always good, and "with God's grace," she explained, it can overcome the hardships. Sr. Catherine, with her studies over, belonged to the Sisters of Charity (B.B.M.), and she enjoyed teaching. At the boarding schools, everyone was always around, and she and the others would teach the young men and prepare their meals. It was a family, of sorts.

After fourteen years at her first parish, Sr. Catherine became the principal of an elementary school. After that, she was principal of two high schools. In her new position, Sr. Catherine taught religion and helped others to find it and to incorporate it into their lives.

But Sr. Catherine was not finished. She was on the move once more, this time to Saint Ambrose University in Davenport. She was still not settled. She was itching to help those less fortunate, so she moved to South Bend where she began teaching adults at the Little Flower Parish. This time she would stay a while longer. For eight years, she taught adults, and in the

"I love to teach. I don't see how anyone does anything else."

- Sr. Catherine Faye

meantime, made an agreement with her friend Sr. Patricia Robinson. The deal was that wherever Sr. Pat was assigned after completing her Ph.D. at Notre Dame, Sr. Catherine would go along as her companion.

With that agreement, Saint Joseph's College received two remarkable individuals. For the past twenty-three years, the two sisters have been here at Saint Joe, teaching and spreading their joy. Up to five years ago, Sr. Catherine was teaching in the college's Core program. After she decided that she was unable to continue her full-time teaching, she couldn't just quit.

So today, she continues her passion for teaching; only now, she tutors those in need.

When asked where, out of all of the places she had lived, from Ireland to rural Indiana, which she would consider to be home, she paused and thought. The expected answer would be Saint Joe. After all, she has spent the last twenty-three years of her life here. "They were all different," she began. She then went on to say how her home was in teaching. "I love to teach," she stated passionately. "I don't see how anyone does anything else."

The Birth of a Chapel

Susan Huss

They are the features that attract the most eyes when arriving on campus. They beacon to strangers from afar. They attract potential students. The Twin Towers. But once upon a time, when the population of St. Joseph's College was only 300 men, the Twin Towers did not exist, did not rise over the students of St. Joseph's College.

The year was 1910, Tuesday, May 17 to be exact. It was the day that the new chapel at St. Joe's would be dedicated. People poured into the new building for the blessing of the chapel and to see the guest of honor, Indiana Governor Thomas R. Marshall. It was the first time that a large number of people would see the glory of the St. Joseph's College Chapel.

The chapel of 1910 was much different from the chapel of 2001. It had nine gold trimmed altars in 1910 and several more paintings and statues than it has today. However, in 1965, supporters of Vatican II had several statues and most of the altars removed.

"In 1965, which was the close of Vatican II, Vatican II supporters took all the altars out and destroyed them," St. Joe Historian Father Dominic Gerlach said. "They figured if they took them out, it [the chapel] would look like a barn, and that would push Father Banet to renovate the chapel."

Father Gerlach said he was sorry to see the chapel changed, and that had he been around, he would have taken pictures to preserve the memories of the paintings that were removed.

"Somehow or another, I simply was not around when they did these things," Father Gerlach said. "I even heard there was talk of smashing the stained glass windows out, so I took pictures of them."

The windows did indeed survive. There are 22 of them in the chapel. Eight of these windows feature saints

or other religious figures on them, and two of them have stories behind them. The window that features Saint Lawrence holds the inscription, "In Memory of Edward J. Pryor." Pryor was the valedictorian of the 1906 graduating class at St. Joe's. He died the night before he would give his valedictory speech. Gerlach said this window is his favorite because of the saint it portrays and the story behind it.

Another window, which features Melchizedek, a pagan priest, also carries an inscription, "In Memory of August J. Kistner, May 23, 1909." Kistner died of tuberculosis. The story goes that the little boy in the picture on the window bears a likeness to Kistner's face.

The chapel's windows are in the process of being restored. They are being releaded and are being protected by the addition of an outside layer of "Plex-a-Glass." Father Gerlach said there are hopes for more renovation in the future.

"The windows are paid for, but to do other things will cost more," he said. "New lighting is not cheap. The sound system is terrible. And how about air conditioning?"

Though repairs are pending, the chapel always maintains its splendor. Yet Father Gerlach still misses the "old chapel."

"There are two things I always distinguish in myself—the heart and the mind," Father Gerlach said. "My heart longs for the old ways, but my mind tells me to get over it. My heart tends to be conservative. My mind tends to be liberal."

With facts from "Saint Joseph's College Chapel," by Father Dominic Gerlach, C.P.P.S.



SJC Gives Back to the Community

Melissa Genova

It has been a long-standing tradition of St. Joseph's College to help the community and to practice Christian Humanism through the work of charitable societies and clubs. At the end of the first semester, many clubs found that they had excess amounts of money. Various clubs concluded that the money would be better spent as donations to selected charities, rather than returning the surplus at the end of the semester.

Kristen Hall, governor of Justin Hall, helped with the placement of the extra money. "There was nothing the halls could do with the money. We split it between the Gallagher Charitable Society and the Crisis Center in town," Hall said. "The money from the Christmas Dance far exceeded what we needed to make ends meet."

The Gallagher Charitable Society also received funding from other clubs at SJC. "I was the Halas governor but now I am the Student Association Secretary," said Blaire Henley, active in student clubs including the Columbian Players. "The women of Halas (along with the women of Justin) donated the proceeds of the Christmas dance to the Gallagher Charitable Society. Our half of the profits was approximately \$300," Henley said.

Members of the associations/clubs agreed that the money was definitely a good reflection on the school. The knowledge that their donations made someone's holiday better comforted the students, and, in turn made their own holiday a little brighter. "I definitely feel this was a positive gesture for SJC but also for the children who received more toys for Christmas. Plus, Gallagher Charitable Society is very well run and does such a good job that it felt awesome to help them out," said Henley.

However, both Hall and Henley feel that it was the student turnout at the Christmas Dance that made most of the donations possible. "Really, you have to thank all the students who came to the dance and made our donation possible," said Henley.

SJC is famous for its assistance to local food shelters and crisis centers. The various clubs have found this tradition of the college valuable enough to follow.

“Five Women Wearing the Same Dress” Portrays Real Life

The Columbian Players’ newest production is not for children, but it contains a meaningful and touching message

—Bree Ma’Ayteh—

This semester, the Columbian Players are starting the semester with a different kind of play. Alan Ball’s “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress” looks at life through the eyes of five bridesmaids who aren’t so happy to be part of a wedding.

The cast is small and almost completely female. Director John Rahe explains, “I liked the play a lot and [liked] what it said. [The school] also had talented women who needed a chance to work.”

The play takes place in Knoxville, Tennessee, where the bridesmaids have made their escape from the back lawn where the wedding reception is taking place.

The bridesmaids are Francis, a fundamentalist who hasn’t really experienced life; Mindy, the groom’s sis-

ter who always has something sarcastic to say; Georgeanne, a woman upset about the way her own marriage has turned out; Meredith, the bride’s rebellious younger sister with a secret; and Tricia, a beautiful cynic who can’t figure out what to do when a man shows interest in her. There’s also Tripp, the usher who is the cause of Tricia’s mixed emotions.

Rahe is excited about the play’s message. “Even though all the women are dressed alike, it’s obvious that each one is unique. It’s a play about the kinds of choices these women have to make, and it raises a lot of questions for people to think about.”

Because of the play’s frank language and adult content, Rahe warns that “Five Women” is not for children. “In addition to this play being both serious and funny, it’s also very honest,” he said. “The women talk about their relationships, including their sex lives. One bridesmaid is drunk throughout the show, and another questions her religious beliefs.”

Will the “frank language and adult content” keep people away? “Sure,” Rahe replied. “People don’t want to bring their kids to this play. That’s not a bad thing.... People are used to the lighthearted comedies that are performed during Parents’ Weekend, while this play is meant to give the actors a chance to flex their dramatic muscles.”

The cast includes: Melissa Genova (“Francis”), freshman from Dyer, IN; Blaire Henley (“Meredith”), junior from Rossville, IN; Megan Bodnar (“Georgeanne”), senior from Hobart, IN; Wendy Sidener (“Mindy”), sophomore from Plainfield, IN; Courtney Coe (“Tricia”), junior from Watago, IL; and Todd Huff (“Tripp”), sophomore from

Bremen, IN. The Stage Manager is Joe Small, from Wheatfield, IN.

The show runs on February 2 and 3 at 8:00 PM and on February 4 at 2:00 PM. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for non-SJC students. Admission is free for Saint Joe students, faculty and staff.

“It’s a play about the kinds of choices these women have to make, and it raises a lot of questions for people to think about.”

—Professor John Rahe—



by Don Shanahan

As your Puma movie critic, I feel obligated to compete with the big-wig Roger Ebert types out there and give you a “Best of 2000” list of my favorite picks of the year. Unlike the big-timers, I pick movies that I personally enjoy for my list not movies that I think will win Oscars. Remember that it’s just a writer’s opinion. In that regard, you are going to find a good amount of drama, sports, and romance on the list because I am a softy and a sports fan. That’s just who I am.

Even though there are a lot of noteworthy movies I haven’t seen yet or at all because of time and distance, I think I have a good grasp of my true favorites and a familiar face is at the top.

For the third year in a row for *At the Movies with Don*, Tom Hanks is the star of my number one choice. *Cast Away*, like last year’s *The Green Mile* and 1998’s *Saving Private Ryan*, further cements the sentiment that Hanks is arguably the best actor working today, with Denzel Washington (#3 this year with *Remember the Titans* and #2 last year with *The Hurricane*) right there if not equal with him. Finally, believe the hype of the big-wig critics for the subtitled-yet-mainstream *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. The movie is the real deal! Compiling this list was very tough. Each of these movies impressed me to no end. In a way, they are all #1’s. It was hard to split up all of this great entertainment and give each a ranking. Nevertheless, here are my baker’s dozen best of 2000:

12. *The Legend of Bagger Vance*- Like *For Love of the Game* last year, the sports lover in me always appreciates a soft-hearted, *Field of Dreams*-like saga. This golf-dictates-life drama from director Robert Redford with stars Matt Damon and Will Smith really was as beautiful as a golf swing.

11. *Love and Basketball*- Two basketball players and neighbors (Omar Epps and Sanaa Lathan) take different paths with their career only to be linked by love that won’t go away. Never before has sport and romance come together so equally and realistically, making for a truly different and excellent movie.

10. *The Patriot*- Though not at the level of *Braveheart*, the 1995 winner of the Best Picture Oscar, Mel Gibson can still deliver a powerful and awesome

story of heroism and vengeance.

9. *Erin Brockovich*- Who thought a court case movie, a true story at that, could be funny and smart at the same time? Who thought Julia Roberts could actually act? Not bad results!

8. *Men of Honor*- Cuba Gooding, Jr. is a powerful presence in the true story of the fight a young black enlisted man goes through to become the first master diver in the Navy. It’s an action movie that inspires along the way.

7. *Frequency*- The best family story of the year appears in the most unlikely place, a time-twisting mystery of a son who talks to his dead father thirty years in the past via ham radio to prevent a series of unsolved murders.

6. *The Perfect Storm*- First off, the incredible special effects may steal the show and make *Twister* look like a summer breeze. More importantly, the drama of this captivating true story of a 1991 fishing steamer caught in the worst storm of the century will hit you like a tidal wave. My jaw was on the floor the whole time in amazement.

5. *Thirteen Days*- A late winter entry, this historical potboiler is an incredibly exciting story, even if you know the end result from history, and very well acted by its three lead actors (Bruce Greenwood as JFK,

Stephen Culp as RFK, and Kevin Costner as Special Assistant Ken O’Donnell.).

4. *Gladiator*- In an star-making role, Russell Crowe creates an adrenaline rush story of revenge that’s far better than *The Patriot*, damn near better than *Braveheart*, and revitalizing to the sword-and-sandal epics of the old days.

3. *Remember the Titans*- Again, the sports-lover in me shows through. Denzel Washington is at his usual best as the football coach with the task of integrating the local white and black students together for victory in a 1971 Virginia town. It’s a compelling true story to say the least, and the only movie this year that made me actually cry.

2. *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*- Like I said before, believe the hype that the big-time critics give this movie because they are right. This movie could almost top Hanks and the big island for #1. It is spectacularly beautiful and dazzling in every way, from top to bottom. Starring Chow Yun-Fat (*Anna and the King*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Tomorrow Never Dies*), this story has action scenes you’ve never dreamed of and epic romance that you won’t find anywhere else this year.

1. *Cast Away*- A truly dramatic and stunning movie where Tom Hanks is a man who must adapt to his surroundings after washing up on a deserted island. Never before has one actor alone onscreen carried an entire movie by himself like this. Only the best could have pulled this off in this outstanding kind of way.



SJC Thrower "A.T." Thrives on Focus and Hard Work

—by Luke Hansen—

When a person desires to excel in athletics or life, success does not arrive overnight. In fact, sports psychologist Bob Rotella teaches four important steps to any achievement. One must have great dreams, a daily commitment, tremendous self-esteem, and a genuine desire to be the best.

SJC weight-thrower Aaron Thomas realized the importance of these values and worked hard towards his goals in track and field. On January 13 at the Purdue Open, Thomas hurled the 35-lb. Weight 53'8", which provisionally qualified him for the NCAA Division II Indoor National meet.

The early-season success was no surprise to Thomas.

"Actually, I wanted to do better," Thomas explained. "Last year I only missed [Nationals] by one or two inches, and that made me a little upset. However, it's a big mental relief that I got a mark in the first meet. Now I have the rest of the season to improve on that meet."

This is the attitude that has contributed to Thomas' steady improvement through the years. When you accomplish one goal, its time to begin focusing on what's next.

"I walked onto the track team my freshman year, because I loved it so much in high school," said Thomas. "Coach Massoels gave me a chance to throw, and I progressed through the years."

Thomas has become the 55th Puma to qualify provisionally for nationals under the guidance of head coach Bill Massoels.

"When A.T. came to us, he wanted to throw and had some tremendous ability," explained Massoels. "He didn't have the coaching that he wanted in high school, but he had tremendous desire. Every season he has continued to get better and stronger. It doesn't matter where you start your career, it's where you finish."

This example has benefited his Puma teammates as well. Andy Cool is one SJC athlete that patterns himself after Thomas.

"A.T. sets a great example for the young throwers," Cool said. "He does everything that coach asks of him, and he does it really well. A.T. is our team leader and he's an inspiration to watch. As a freshman, I really look up to what he's achieved as a track athlete."

Thomas credits some of his success to his off-season regimen. After starting at defensive line on the football team for three years, Thomas focused himself on track during his senior year.

"Football is good from the aspect that it keeps you competitive, but it tore my body down physically," said Thomas. "When track came, the first half of the season was usually spent healing and trying to get better from my football injuries. I guess that's one of the advantages coming into this year."

Thomas played football, wrestled,

and competed in track and field while in high school at Indianapolis Tech. During his senior season, Thomas qualified for state and broke his school's record in the discus. His athletic and academic success enabled him to attend SJC.

Staying busy has never been a problem for Thomas, who manages his time among several campus activities. Last year, he was "heavily involved" as Vice-President of the Minority Student Union (MSU) and their collective goals. Thomas has also been in the gospel choir and is currently serving as a Resident Assistant.

Much like his athletic experiences, Thomas has a clear vision of his future career.

"I'm thinking about going into music, actually," said Thomas, who is majoring in Finance. "I love producing and song-writing and that type of thing. Rickey McCray, my business partner, and myself are starting our own entertainment and production company."

Thomas expects his competitive spirit to translate into his future endeavors.

"I love athletics and competition. I'll always be involved in something, whether it's coaching or just working out. That competitiveness with always be there, and it's going to help, especially being an entrepreneur in music," Thomas said.

Over the years, Thomas has learned many valuable lessons.

"You have to find something that you love to do, whether it be athletics or whatever. Surround yourself with the people that will help support you. Set high goals for yourself. They have to be reachable goals, but high goals."

Thomas still has unfinished business as a Puma athlete. This past Saturday, he competed at the Stan Lyons Invitational, hosted by Butler University, and slightly improved on his previous mark in the weight throw.

Following the indoor season, Thomas looks forward to competing in two events outdoors. Thomas hopes to qualify for Nationals in the discus and hammer. With his dedication and character, no one will doubt what Thomas can accomplish.

"When A.T. just missed out on Nationals last season, he could have buried his head in the sand, but he didn't," coach Massoels added. "He went into the outdoor season, came back strong, and worked that much harder in the fall. The team has seen what can happen when you work hard. You've got to persevere."

CONGRATULATIONS to all three current provisional national qualifiers from the SJC track team!

Josh Hughes
(high jump)

Aaron Thomas
(35 lb. weight throw)

Joe Koczan
(35 lb. weight throw)

COACH'S CORNER: Outside the huddle with head football coach Tom Riva

—by Don Shanahan—

Welcome to the return edition of "Coach's Corner." Opening the new year is Tom Riva, the head football coach for Saint Joseph's College, a man I have had the pleasure of working for as his student manager in my four years. Mr. Riva goes into his fifth year as head coach of the Pumas this coming fall of 2001. During his tenure here at SJC, going back to 1995, Riva has held the roles of offensive line coach, offensive coordinator, and assistant head coach before his promotion to the top spot. In practices, Coach Riva currently works with the quarterbacks and running backs in directing the Pumas' triple option offense.

Here's what the head honcho had to say when I sat down with him.

Q. First off, Coach, what brought you to SJC?

A. Well, Brian Coon, a friend of mine from college and a fellow coach, was hired here as the defensive backs coach. He informed me that the program was still looking for an offensive line coach and I got the job.

Q. You've moved through a lot of positions during your time here. What's your favorite position to coach?

A. Without a doubt, it's the offensive line. Between the lack of notoriety that the position gets and my own experience playing there, my heart is always there; though it is a tough choice.

Q. What was it like being a player and a coach at the same time (in Germany)?

A. I wouldn't trade that experience for anything.

It was the fun and freedom of it. I would and could call any play I wanted to from the field all as we went. There are plays and situations I did there that I would never try in the states.

Q. What is the hardest part about your job?

A. Though it's hard to explain, I would have to say dealing with unexpected events that can take away from what you are trying to accomplish, as in the emergencies and things that you would never think to come up that do.

Q. What is your highlight game as SJC head coach?

A. The game that stands out in my mind is the 1998 Wayne State home game. That game was special in so many ways. It was four overtimes against a team I used to coach for, that senior class' last game ever, and for all the times during that game that we could have given up but fought through.

Q. There are a lot of popular football movies out there. Which one is your favorite and which is the most accurate to the game of football?

A. My favorite is a little-seen 80's movie called *Best of Times*. Every player should rent it if they get the chance.

Q. Speaking of off-the-field part of the game, what are the outside qualities that you look for in your potential players?

A. The biggest quality that I value is that my players be good people that you like to be around. Another thing is to have the ability to stick with something all the way.

Q. In the locker room after a tough game at



SJC's HEAD FOOTBALL Coach Tom Riva is all about intensity on the field, as you can easily see to the left. Here in "Coach's Corner," He takes off the headset and cleats for a casual conversation. *Photo by Don Shanahan*

home or on the road, what do you tell your team after a win? after a loss?

A. I try not to say too much because, after a game, emotions are riding high in everyone's head. I like to keep things short. After I win, I tell my men to simply enjoy it. After a loss, I want my players to feel the pain and think about it for a day, but know that it's over on Monday.

Q. What your favorite meal down in the cafeteria?

A. It's definitely the "cyberwraps" by Steve (Santos).

Q. How intense are those fabled lunchtime

staff basketball games where coaches and professors alike go everyday?

(With a smirk and a pause) Pretty intense! It's a good outlet for a lot of us out there and everyone has a role that they play in it all.

Q. Finally, Coach, what are your goals for 2001?

A. My team goal is very basic: hold them to one point less than us and score one point more than them. Within a team working together, it doesn't matter what happens in between, just that the scoreboard and the end result is in our favor.

Balza's Men Overcome Injuries With Solid Play

Plagued by numerous key injuries, the SJC Men's Basketball team has won three in a row and six of their last ten, including a huge win over GLVC rival Northern Kentucky, the #4 team in nation.

—by Don Shanahan—

If you're a coach, the perennial injury bug is something you have to plan for even though you don't know when it's going to hit. If you're lucky, you can see it coming and keep the bug away. That nice scenario didn't happen over the holidays for head coach Dave Balza and the SJC men's basketball team. Instead of one wily injury bug, the whole friggin' swarm made its way to Saint Joseph's College in a matter of weeks.

As if the personal departure of two players (Calvin O' Neal and Ramal Hunter) wasn't bad enough, the team lost all of their centers at one point to injury. Jermaine Crosby stepped up to the starting center spot only to tear his Achilles tendon in practice, sidelining him for the season. The swarm struck even harder when freshman Seth Perigo missed the Christmas return with a stomach infection, freshman Jake Argenta broke his hand off the court, and transfer Brad Ferland had constant knee troubles.

Decimated in the height department, Coach Balza has been forced to start three guards and two forwards ever since. For a while, he was down to eight total players. Where most teams would fold, the Pumas only fought harder and played harder. As of the end of January, the team has won three straight, six of their last ten, and stand with a 11-9 overall record.

It is as if the tough times and dire circumstances only made the team stronger, especially when facing a very difficult six-game homestand against some of the best teams in the GLVC conference and the nation.

With only one win out of five during Injury Christmas, the team looked on the brink of skidding for good after a nail-biting loss on the road to Bellarmine Univer-

SOPHOMORE GUARD HODGES Smith lays up an easy two points in the Pumas' 93-81 victory over Quincy, the final game of a six game homestand.
Photo by Don Shanahan



sity. With just eight players, the Pumas narrowly lost what Coach Balza could only call "a true heartbreaker" game. A controversial last second shot, amid blown foul calls, gave the Knights of Bellarmine an 89-88 win. The loss was particularly tough to swallow considering the daunting task of their next opponent.

The next game was the one everyone involved with SJC basketball was circling on the schedule. The opponent to open the six-game homestand was the, then #2 and now #1 team in the nation, Kentucky Wesleyan University.

Bringing their own bus of 150 fans and an unblemished record, Wesleyan was an intimidating foe when you only have eight players. Nevertheless, the Pumas stayed with them the whole game and had the big team tied 40-40 at halftime. While the final score read 91-81, the game was close all the way to the final minutes. The three-

guard-two-forward lineup of Mason, Brandon Yates, Hodges Smith, Jamie Holden, and Marlon Murphy carried the team most all of the game.

The Pumas next traded two wins and two losses during the middle of the homestand. In between two losses to Indianapolis University and University of Missouri-St. Louis, the Pumas won their contests against the NAIA East-West University and Northern Kentucky University.

While the first victory, a 109-56 spanking of East-West, was grand, the real highlight of the whole season came in the huge 83-79 upset win over Northern Kentucky, then, the #4 team in the nation.

Again, the Pumas persevered with under ten total players behind five double-digit Puma scorers. Freshman guard Jamie Holden led the upset attack with 18 points, five assists, and three steals. Right behind Holden in double-digits was Brent Mason scoring 15, Marlin Murphy putting up 14, Marvin Smith's 13, and Hodges Smith's 10. This spectacular home game was the Pumas first win

over NKU in their 12-game history.

Other happenings within the big NKU upset was Brent Mason's ascension into the SJC 1000 point club and Marlon Murphy being named the Co-GLVC Player of the Week. After his fifteen point performance, Mason became the thirty-second member of this career list. Murphy garnered his honor after averaging 11.7 points, 58% shooting, and 6.3 assists over the week.

In the final homestand set, the Pumas split the weekend 1-1 to the University of Missouri-St. Louis (a 71-86 loss) and Quincy (a 93-81 win). At the end of the six-game homestand, Balza's Pumas stood at the .500 mark overall (9-9) and 3-6 in the GLVC as they now moved to the road.

In the final games before this newspaper deadline, the Pumas carried their Quincy success up north for two more solid and one particularly exciting win.

The first win was a sweet 85-71 decision over Wisconsin-Parkside behind Mason's 16 points. The big story of the weekend was the double-overtime thriller against Lewis University on January 27.

With WPUM travelling to carry the game, fans all over were captivated by the Puma heroics leading to a thrilling 118-114 victory in 2OT. Last second heroics and great defensive plays paved the way for the highest two-team score for both SJC and Lewis.

Brent Mason was an absolute animal scoring a game high 32 points from all reaches of the court, a performance that enshrined him as the GLVC Player of the Week.

Mason was 2-4 from the arc, 7 of 15 from the field, and a conference record perfect streak of 16-16 from the free-throw line. Hodges Smith was right there with Mason scoring a very solid 25 points.

Sports Editorial

THE INSIDE CORNER: They say it's not about the money. Yeah, sure.

—by Erik Steffen—

Hey everyone. I hope you had a good break – and my, a lot has happened since I last wrote a column. I have a few major issues I'd like to address, and then some closing thoughts about life here at SJC. So, dig your back foot in and take a warm up swing and get ready for the next pitch to blaze the inside corner.

A-Rod, A-Rod, what are you going to do with all that money? If Alex Rodriguez averages four swings per at bat, he averages ten thousand dollars per pitch. So if that estimate of pitches is a little off, we can round down to nine thousand nine hundred dollars per pitch. Either way – that is way too much money.

I am a baseball player. I would love nothing more than to make money playing the game I love for the rest of my

life – but ten thousand dollars a pitch? That's asinine! That's an entire year at SJC in two pitches (well maybe 3 pitches counting dorm fines and books). That means, A-Rod can go up to the plate, scratch himself, spit in the dirt, watch a strike right down the middle (just to get a feel for the pitcher) and he's earned himself a semester.

He says it's not about the money. He said he had plenty before – then why did he change teams? Why would he leave a playoff contending team like the Seattle Mariners to go to Texas, a team that has, at best, flirted with playoff contention. The Mariners have to feel like a bunch of idiots. Four years ago they had Griffey, A-Rod, and Randy Johnson all on the same team. With no salary cap in baseball, you have to wonder where the management's heads are.

Guess what now? Pedro wants more money too. Not much more, of course,

because it's not about the money. But hey – Manny Ramirez got more money, and life just has to be fair for these guys getting paid more money than most people alive in the world just to hurl leather orbs at each other.

On a local note, hell week is about over for the SJC baseball team. I'm telling you, I didn't know what hard work was before this. This is the pure essence of hell and all that hell stands for. It hurts to walk, it hurts to eat, it hurts to sit down at my computer and it hurts to write this column. As I'm writing this, there are only two days left – two days that can take all the time they want in coming.

That's all I have for sports, but I have this column space, and I figured I'd use it, and I have a beef to pick with SJC, well not just SJC, but the Midwest in general. I grew up in Atlanta, and though it had many faults of its own, there was one thing it wasn't lacking in, and that's southern hospitality. No matter if you knew someone or not, you

would smile and wave and say "Hi! How yall doin'?"

Up here, if I try to smile and wave at someone I get stared at like I'm some deranged stalker with evil dirty thoughts. What's it going to take you northerners to smile up here? Everyone has to be cold. You pass someone on the sidewalk, and they look down and away, or go to pick up a rock, or just stare straight ahead, making the situation even more awkward than it otherwise would be if you just smiled. Hey, y'all, it's not a crime to wave and smile at someone that isn't part of your clique.

Although, I'm sure A-Rod is smiling and waving a lot these days. He probably gets paid 500 dollars per tooth in each one of his smiles. This is not to mention what his sniveling usurer agent is getting. You do the math: at least 20 percent of 250 million. Is any man worth that?

Bruised

By dann

We met through friends
I was young and inexperienced
Everything he did and said
Even the way he walked
Made me feel wonderful inside
Because we were in love

He liked to tease me
And when we were together
We would joke and he would nudge me
Then the nudges became a little harder
But I thought nothing of it
Because we were in love

He took me for a drive
How romantic that he would think
of something so sweet
What began as a dream, slowly
became a nightmare
I was asked to do the unthinkable
I thought he was joking as usual
But he was for real
And I thought nothing of it
Because we were in love

When I failed to make him happy
He wouldn't nudge me
Some would call them love taps
I would call them pain
But I thought nothing of it
Because we were in love

I figured it was a phase
He really didn't mean it
I knew he loved me
So I thought nothing of it
Because I was in love

It happened
Time and time again
Now everything about him
Made me feel horrible inside
I couldn't get away
And I didn't want to make a scene
But then finally, he made a scene
that I can't forget

The marks are no longer seen
But they are still there
What made me so blind
I thought I was in love

Word Play

al•tru•ism-n., unselfish concern
for the welfare of others; selfless-
ness

bi•fur•cate v., to divide or sepa-
rate into two parts or branches

mi•lieu- n., an environment;
setting

pro•le•gom•e•non-n., an open-
ing essay or remark

vol•a•til•ize-v., 1. to become or
make volatile 2. to evaporate or
cause to evaporate

Ponder This...

Why does the sun lighten our hair,
but darken our skin?
Why can't women put on mascara
with their mouth closed?
Why doesn't glue stick to the inside
of the bottle?
Why don't you ever see the head-
line "Psychic Wins Lottery"?
Why is "abbreviated" such a long
word?
Why is a boxing ring square?
Why is it considered necessary to
nail down the lid of a coffin?
Why is it that doctors call what they
do "practice"?
Why is it that rain drops but snow
falls?
Why is it that to stop Windows 95,
you have to click on "Start"?
Why is it that when you're driving
and looking for an address, you turn
down the volume on the radio?
Why is lemon juice made with ar-
tificial flavor, and dishwashing liq-
uid made with real lemons?
Why is the man who invests all
your money called a broker?
Why is the third hand on the watch
called a second hand?
Why is the time of day with the
slowest traffic called rush hour?
Why isn't there a special name for
the tops of your feet?
Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat
food?
Can fat people go skinny-dipping?
Why do you need a driver's license
to buy liquor when you can't drink
and drive?

Puma Entertainment Quick Picks

Don Shanahan

Movies Coming to Theaters Feb- ruary 2nd

Valentine- In this slasher flick, the
nerd that the popular kids made fun
of is back ten years later for revenge
now that the kids are in college.
Denise Richards (Wild Things) and
David Boreanaz (TV's "Angel")
star.

Movies Coming to Theaters Feb- ruary 9th

Hannibal- The long-awaited and
hotly-talked about sequel to The Si-
lence of the Lambs should be the
biggest movie of the season. An-
thony Hopkins reprises his master-
ful role as serial-killer Dr. Hannibal
Lecter running loose in Italy with
FBI Agent Clarice Starling
(Julianne Moore, instead of Jodie
Foster) and an ex-victim (Gary
Oldman) on his tail. Gladiator's
Ridley Scott directs.

Head Over Heels- Monica Pot-
ter (Patch Adams) falls for the
suave and successful guy from
across the street (Freddie Prinze,
Jr.) only to find out his violent
lifestyle in this quirky romantic
comedy.

Video/DVD Releases for Febru- ary 6th

Dr. T. and the Women- Rich-
ard Gere is a Dallas gynecologist
with a sexy clientele of strange and
obsessive women, including Helen
Hunt, Kate Hudson, Farrah
Fawcett, Shelley Long, Tara Reid,
Laura Dern, and Liv Tyler.

Video/DVD Releases for Febru- ary 13th

Urban Legend: Final Cut-
Hopeless slasher sequel with a no-
name cast imitating the urban lore
stories and murders of the original
on a movie set.

Whipped- Amanda Peet from The
Whole Nine Yards has her way

cracking the relationship whip on
three lovestruck buddies.

*The Adventures of Rocky and
Bullwinkle*- Live-actors and car-
toon characters collide as your
classic heroes of the title try and
stop Boris (Jason Alexander),
Natasha (Rene Russo), and Fear-
less Leader (Robert De Niro).

Backstage- Behind-the-scenes
look inside the 1999 "Hard Knock
Life" Tour featuring Jay-Z,
Redman, Method Man, Ja Rule,
DMX, and other Roc-A-Fella art-
ists.

Bless the Child- Summer flop
and satanic thriller where Kim
Basinger, Jimmy Smits, and Chris-
tina Ricci must protect a child with
mysterious powers from evil
hands.

Get Carter- Sylvester Stallone,
after three years away from mov-
ies, returns as a mob thug out for
revenge against his brother's mur-
derers. Co-stars include Mickey
Rourke, Michael Caine, and
Rachel Leigh Cook.

Bring It On- Girl power takes
over as two rival cheerleading
teams duke it out in the national
finals. Starring Kirsten Dunst.

Woman on Top- Hot actress of
the moment Penelope Cruz stars
as a sexy TV chef who's motion
sickness always requires her to "be
on top," so to speak.

CD Releases for February 6th

Rod Stewart: *Human*
Soundtrack (Various Artists):
Malcom in the Middle
Diamond Rio: *One More Day*
Ghetto E.: *Ghetto Theater*

CD Releases for February 13th

Usher: *All About U*
Danni Leigh: *Shot of Whiskey &
a Prayer*

Joe the Donkey is not a sea urchin

I've got this pet, Joe the Donkey,
who sits in the sand.
All he does is sleep,
and flip rubberbands.
Sometimes Joe gets mad,
he whines, cries, and spits.
So I just throw a shovel at him,
it usually makes him quit.
But Joe is a good friend,
he is pretty funny.
He's a lot nicer than Marv
my fake plastic dummy.
You know, if Joe had his own show
he'd put Lassie to shame.
Everyone else would love him too,
but Joe would shrug off the fame.
But Joe isn't famous,
he sits home with me,
pulls up a chair
and watches T.V.
As for me I'm happy you see,
because Joe isn't a sea urchin
I hate sea urchins.

Nate Bowers

Valentine's Day

www.care2.com

The origins of Valentine's Day
trace back to the ancient Roman
celebration of Lupercalia. In addition
to a bountiful feast, Lupercalia festivi-
ties are purported to have included the
pairing of young women and men. Men
would draw women's names from a
box, and each couple would be paired
until next year's celebration.

While this pairing of couples set the
tone for today's holiday, it wasn't called
"Valentine's Day" until a priest named
Valentine came along. Valentine, a ro-
mantic at heart, disobeyed Emperor
Claudius II's decree that soldiers remain
bachelors. Claudius handed down this
decree believing that soldiers would be
distracted and unable to concentrate on
fighting if they were married or engaged.
Valentine defied the emperor and secretly
performed marriage ceremonies. As a re-
sult of his defiance, Valentine was put to
death on February 14. After Valentine's
death, he was named a saint.

As Christianity spread through
Rome, the priests moved Lupercalia from
February 15 to February 14 and renamed
it St. Valentine's Day to honor Saint Val-
entine.

Cupid was known to cause people
fall in love by shooting them with his
magical arrows. As legend has it,
Cupid fell in love with a mortal maiden
named Psyche. Cupid married Psyche,
but Venus, jealous of Psyche's beauty,
forbade her daughter-in-law to look at
Cupid. Psyche couldn't resist tempta-
tion and sneaked a peek at her hand-
some husband. As punishment, Venus
demanded that she perform three hard
tasks, the last of which caused Psyche's
death.

Cupid brought Psyche back to life
and the gods, moved by their love,
granted Psyche immortality. Cupid thus
represents the heart and Psyche the
(struggles of the) human soul.